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TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UNGA](#) [CY](#)  
SUBJECT: CYPRUS RESPONSE TO UNGA THIRD COMMITTEE DEMARCHE

REF: SECSTATE 109397

[1](#)1. (SBU) On October 29, Poloff delivered reftel points to Nicos Nicolaou, Counselor in the MFA's Political Affairs Division, Department of Multilateral Affairs and International Organizations. Regarding no-action motions and country-specific resolutions on Iran, Burma and DPRK, Nicolaou said that Cyprus intended to vote in coordination with other EU member states, based on the position of the EU Human Rights Committee. Nicolaou noted that on "traditional initiatives" (e.g., country-specific human rights motions), Cyprus, as an EU member, is "usually in the same boat as the U.S."

[1](#)2. (SBU) Nicolaou expected Cyprus to vote for the U.S.'s biennial resolution in support of UN Electoral Assistance Division, but noted that their final position would depend on the final text. On the Convention on the Rights of the Child, he welcomed U.S. efforts to reach common ground with the EU and GRULAC.

[1](#)3. (SBU) Regarding the OIC's proposed resolution on the "defamation of religions," Nicolaou said that Cyprus and the EU share the USG's concern over freedom of expression, underscoring the need for "a delicate balance" with freedom of religion.

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